

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 06818 141027Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 103468

P 140911Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3024

S E C R E T AMMAN 6818

EXDIS

DEPT PASS DEFENSE/ISA; DOD/ISA HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, JO, XF

SUBJ: ASSISTANT SECRETARY ELLSWORTH DISCUSSION WITH KING HUSSEIN

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ELLSWORTH, DIRECTOR GEORGE VEST, STATE, PM; DEPASTSECY IN ISA FOR BESA, MAJES NOYES; AND BG YOUREE, JCS-J5 PAID COURTESY CALL ON KING HUSSEIN NOVEMBER 13 AT 16:15. AMBASSADOR ATTENDED ALONG WITH A JORDANIAN COS LT GENERAL ZAID BIN SHAKER, CHIEF OF STAFF, AND JAA CINC, FIELD MARSHALL MAJALI (PART OF TIME ONLY).

2. AFTER EXCHANGE OF GREETINGS AND AMENITIES, ELLSWORTH DESCRIBED PRESENT US SITUATION ON BASIS REPORTS AVAILABLE TO HIM. CONGRESS HAD CHANGED AFTER ELECTION, BUT MAJOR PROBLEM NOT ONE OF PARTY DIVISION RATHER ONE OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LEADERSHIP AND NEW FACES IN CONGRESS. SIMILARLY, THERE WERE ISOLATIONIST TRENDS IN US PUBLIC, BUT PRESIDENT AND HIS CHIEF ASSISTANTS DEDICATED TO CARRYING ON AN EFFECTIVE FOREIGN POLICY IN THE WORLD.

3. KING THANKED ELLSWORTH AND THEN PROCEEDED ON A TOUR D'HORIZON. NOTED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF ISOLATIONIST TREND IN US. BOTH ELLSWORTH AND I DROVE HOME POINT IN RESPONSE THAT THIS NOT DOMINANT THEME, NOR VIEWPOINT OF ADMINISTRATION, AND THAT IF ANYTHING JORDAN-US RELATIONS WERE ON AS GOOD A BASIS AS POSSIBLE AFTER SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 AMMAN 06818 141027Z

4. KING CONTINUED, NOTING RABAT SUMMIT HAD MADE FOR A MAJOR CHANGE, WHICH COULD ONLY BE SHIFTED BACK IF MASSIVE UPSWELLING OF PALESTINIAN POPULATION WERE TO SEEK TO CHANGE SITUATION. OIL WAS ALSO A VERY SERIOUS QUESTION. ARABS WERE BEING ERRESPONSIBLE WITH THE MONEY. OIL COULD BRING THE AREA TO POINT OF CATASTROPHY IF NOT WELL LOOKED AFTER, PARTICULARLY VIS A VIS DEVELOPED NATIONS. IN ADDITION, WITH PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE AND STABILITY, WAR LOOKED MORE LIKELY.

5. ELLSWORTH ASKED WHAT ARE CHANCES FOR WAR HERE IN MIDDLE EAST IN NEXT 90-120 DAYS. KING SAID HE THOUGHT BETTER THAN 50/50. SYRIA IS IN INCREASING DISARRAY. THERE IS INCREASING VOCAL OPPOSITION TO ASAD IN SYRIA. THE SOVIETS AND IRAQIS SEEM TO BE PUSHING THEM TOWARD WAR. THERE IS RE-EXAMINATION (IN SYRIA) OF THESIS THAT THEY WON IN OCT 1973 AND CONCERN THAT THEY ONLY GOT KUNEITRA AND SMALL AREA OF GOLAN BACK. THIS SORT OF PRESSURE PLUS SOVIET ARMS SUPPLY IN LARGE QUANTITIES, COULD LEAD BACK TO WAR. HE ALSO THOUGHT ISRAEL WAS UNDER PRESSURE AT HOME, INCLUDING RECENT ECONOMIC PRESSURE, AND COULD NOT BE DEPENDED UPON NOT TO PRE-ERUPT.

6. CONTINUING, THE KING SAID THAT JORDAN WANTED TO PLAY A ROLE IN THE GULF AND PENINSULA. IN N-YEMEN IT LOOKED LIKE EGYPT WAS GETTING THE NOD. JORDAN WAS READY TO HELP WITH TRAINING TEAMS, BUT THE SAUDIS WOULD NOT FUND IT, AND JORDAN COULD NOT AFFORD TO SEND IN MORE ADVISORS ON ITS OWN. IN OMAN, THE IRANIANS SEEMED TO BE SLOWONG DOWN. WE KNEW OF SAUDI EFFORTS AT SEPARATION OF OMAN AND PDRY. HE WAS READY TO SEND IN MORE OF HIS OWN TROOPS IF THAT WAS THOUGHT TO BE A GOOD IDEA--TO FORM AN "ARAB COCKTAIL" FORCE. JORDAN WOULD THEN BE IN A GOOD POSITION FOR FUTURE CONTINGENCIES.

7. OVERALL JORDAN HAD TO BE STRONG, AND WEAKNESS WOULD ONLY INVITE WAR. SYRIA AND IRAQ WERE BEING BUILT UP HEAVILY AND JORDAN NEEDED ALL THE STRENGTH IT COULD MUSTER. ELLSWORTH NOTED US DOD READY TO HELP WITHIN ITS LIMITATIONS. INFLATION HAD HIT US ALL HARD, BUT WE WOULD DO OUR BEST.

8. MEETING ENDED WITH EXCHANGE OF THANKS AND GREETINGS.
PICKERING

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 AMMAN 06818 141027Z

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, POLITICAL SITUATION, PEACE PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974AMMAN06818
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740328-0680
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741145/aaaablsn.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASSISTANT SECRETARY ELLSWORTH DISCUSSION WITH KING HUSSEIN
TAGS: PFOR, US, JO, XF, (ELLSWORTH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005